REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed April 20, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Goshey, et al. ("Goshey," U.S. Pat. No. 6,473,783). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

It is axiomatic that "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration." *W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554, 220 USPQ 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Therefore, every claimed feature of the claimed invention must be represented in the applied reference to constitute a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In the present case, not every feature of the claimed invention is represented in the Goshey reference. Applicant discusses the Goshey reference and Applicant's claims in the following.

A. The Goshey Disclosure

Goshey discloses a method and apparatus for sharing peripheral devices over a network. As is described by Goshey, "Server ScanLan" code is installed on a first networked computer 112b (the "server") and "Client ScanLan" code is installed on a second networked computer 112d (the "client"). Goshey, column 5, lines 32-37. With this configuration, the client computer can access and use peripheral devices that are connected to the server computer. Goshey, column 5, lines 7-12, lines 32-37.

Although Goshey discloses an "interrogator" 204 that is configured to determine what peripheral devices are connected *to the client computer* (Goshey, column 4, lines 58-64), Goshey does not disclose a program or component that is configured to determine what peripheral devices are connected to *other computers*.

B.   Applicant's Claims

Goshey fails to explicitly teach several of Applicant's claim limitations. Applicant discusses some of those claim limitations in the following.

Applicant's claim 1 provides as follows (emphasis added):

1.   A method for detecting devices connected to a network, comprising:

sending a scan request to a remote command process running on a remote network host;

scanning the network host with the remote command process to identify peripheral devices that are directly connected to the host; and

receiving a response to the scan request from the remote command process that indicates what devices are connected to the network host.

As is apparent from the above claim, Applicant explicitly recites the actions of "sending a scan request to a remote command process running on a remote network host" and "receiving a response to the scan request from the remote command process that indicates what devices are connected to the network host". Simply stated, Goshey teaches neither of those actions.

First, Goshey does not teach sending a scan request to a remote network host. Although, as is mentioned above, Goshey does disclose use of an interrogator on a

client computer to determine what devices are connected to the client computer, Goshey does not describe any interrogator or other tool that *sends a request to another computer to determine what peripheral devices are on that computer.*

Second, Goshey does not teach receiving a response to the scan request from the other computer that indicates what devices are connected to the other computer. Instead, Goshey only describes accessing and using the peripheral devices of another computer. In other words, Goshey is silent as to how the client computer or client user first determines what peripheral devices are available on a network.

From the above, it is apparent that Goshey lacks the disclosure to anticipate Applicant's claim 1. Specifically, although Goshey discusses use of remote peripheral devices, Goshey does not discuss the prior step of *discovering* those devices. As far as the reader knows, Goshey uses a manual process, such as that described in the Background section of Applicant's disclosure, to determine what peripheral devices are available, and then utilizes the peripheral devices with the Client ScanLan. Regardless, 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that the applied reference actually teach each and every limitation of Applicant's claims. The Goshey reference clearly does not. Accordingly, claims 1-10 and 35 are allowable over Goshey.

Applicant notes that similar limitations are contained in independent claims 11 and 21. With specific regard to claim 11, Goshey does not teach "means for sending a scan request to a remote command process running on a remote network host" or "means for receiving a response to the scan request from the remote command process that indicates what devices are connected to the network host". With specific regard to claim 21, Goshey does not teach "logic configured to send a scan request to a remote command process running on a remote network host" or "logic configured to receive a response to the scan request from the remote command process that indicates

what devices are connected to the network host". Claims 11-30, 36, and 37 are therefore likewise allowable over Goshey.

Regarding independent claim 31, Goshey does not teach "a controller process running on a first network host . . . configured to send a scan request to a remote network host" or "a remote command process running on a second network host . . . configured to receive the scan request sent by the controller process and initiate a scan of the second network host to identify peripheral devices that are directly connected to the second network host" for reasons similar to those discussed above. Accordingly, claims 31-34 and 38 are also allowable over Goshey.

Applicant further notes that Goshey fails to teach several explicit limitations found in Applicant's dependent claims. For example, Goshey does not teach "receiving *device addresses* from the application program interface and *requesting information from the devices directly via the addresses*" as is provided in claim 5. Similar recitations are comprised by claims 15 and 25.
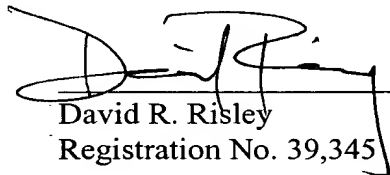
Regarding claim 9, Goshey does not teach "sending multiple scan requests" to multiple remote computers "in parallel". Similar recitations are found in claims 19 and 29.

Due to the shortcomings of the Goshey reference described in the foregoing, Applicant respectfully asserts that Goshey does not anticipate Applicant's claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.
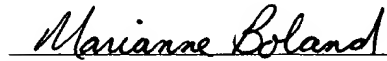
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on
              June 20, 2005   .

Marianne Boland
Signature